

the job—"boots on the ground" in military parlance and all the organizational efficiency in the world is no substitute.

It is said that history often repeats itself. Our Nation has historically reduced the number of men and women in uniform following major conflicts, such as World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Korea, and the Cold War. As a result of this historical phenomenon, we had a relatively small force by historical standards when we were violently attacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001. In the days since then, hundreds of thousands of National Guard and Reservists have been called to active duty to provide security at our Nation's airports, bridges, nuclear power plants, and other important facilities. Thousands of men and women in uniform were sent to Afghanistan to remove terrorists and their supporters in Operation Enduring Freedom. And, in March of this year, Armed Forces personnel were sent to invade Iraq and remove a cruel and ruthless dictator from power, and are likely to be in Iraq for years to come. The message from these events is clear—because there are not enough troops to meet our worldwide military obligations, troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and even those guarding against terrorism inside the United States, face longer call ups, deployments and hardships than would be required if we had a larger force. We simply need more people in our military to do the job right!

On September 23, 1999, then presidential candidate Bush stated, "Frustration is up, as families are separated and strained. Morale is down. Recruitment is more difficult. And many of our best people in the military are headed for civilian life." Just four short years later, I say the same words to the President. Frustration is up, and families have been separated and strained more today than at any other time in recent history. Morale is declining. Although military recruiting is now satisfactory, many military leaders have expressed their fear that retention and recruiting will decline as troops rotate back home.

The time has come for Congress to ensure that our Nation has the military manpower that it needs to successfully execute the missions we ask our brave service men and women to perform. We need to increase our military end-strength, particularly in the Army, now. We need to ensure that the all volunteer force will continue to work as well as it has for the last 30 years. And that will only happen if we have enough people in uniform.

#### RECOGNIZING BOB WENZEL

#### HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 17, 2003*

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an exemplary public servant, Bob Wenzel. Bob recently concluded 40 years of government service, 38 of which were spent with the Internal Revenue Service. I am privileged to say that I know Bob, and I commend him for dedicating his professional career to the betterment of our country.

A son of German immigrants, Bob's patriotism to our Nation began as a young child, when he would daily raise and lower the family's American flag. In his words, "[w]hat it in-

stilled in me was what this country represents."

Bob's interest in taxes was initially developed through his responsibility for calculating the family's taxes. This chore, coupled with a desire to contribute to his country, led him to join the IRS in 1963, turning down significantly more lucrative private sector positions. Bob has made serving his country a guiding principle for his entire working life, and has made his life choices based on what he could contribute. He rose up through the ranks, from a revenue officer in Chicago, to director of the IRS Service Center in Ogden, Utah, eventually rising to Deputy Commissioner and even Acting Commissioner. Bob's commitment to customer service won a presidential award for his quality improvements in Utah.

Bob's demonstrated leadership in customer service led former IRS Commissioner Charles Rossotti to name him as Deputy Commissioner during a time of great transition following passage of the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998. Upon confirmation of Mark Everson as Commissioner earlier this year, Bob was again named Deputy Commissioner, where his efforts continue to result in a more favorable public perception of the IRS.

Bob leaves the IRS with the universal respect of his peers, including former Commissioners, front-line managers, and the union. His contributions will long be remembered at the IRS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues, we pay tribute to Bob's service and wish him and his family good health and good fortune in his well-deserved retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING MICHAEL RICHARDS FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 17, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Richards, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 412, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 9 years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Troop-Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, librarian, and Troop Guide. Michael is also a Brave in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and was inducted into the Order of the Arrow where he is a Brotherhood member.

For his Eagle Scout project, Michael built picnic tables and hitching posts for two rest areas on the horse and hiking trail around Smithville Lake. His project will be enjoyed by many visitors and horseback riders.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Richards for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 17, 2003*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, October 15, if the voting machine was working properly, it would have recorded my vote in favor of H.R. 1828, the Syria Accountability Act. The Syria Accountability Act is extremely worthwhile legislation and I was proud to cosponsor it on May 22, 2003.

#### TIME FOR SOLUTIONS

#### HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 17, 2003*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the October 4, 2003, editorial from the Norfolk Daily News, which is entitled "More of a problem than a solution." Although this Member certainly is pleased that the United Nations (U.N.) Security Council unanimously approved a resolution which establishes a U.S.-led multinational force in Iraq, he continues to hold many of the concerns outlined in the editorial with regard to the failure of the U.N. to adapt to current realities.

Recently, this Member became a co-sponsor of the National Commission on the Modernization of the United Nations Act of 2003 (H.R. 3079). Through this measure, which was introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW), Congress would create an independent commission to explore how the U.S. could encourage structural changes in the U.N. Indeed, for the U.N. to remain relevant, the institution must be open and willing to reassess its structure, and the United States should lead the campaign for changes.

[From the Norfolk Daily News, Oct. 4, 2003.]

#### MORE OF A PROBLEM THAN A SOLUTION

President Bush has asked the United Nations for help in rebuilding Iraq. But instead of responding with a loud "yes" and saying they will finally do the right thing for people in need, many members harrumphed and growled and once more demonstrated that the world organization may be on the road to irrelevance.

Kofi Annan, the U.N. secretary general, reminded anyone who would listen how the world body had "imperfectly" kept the planet peaceful for 58 years and that the current U.S. policy of pre-emptive action puts all of that at risk.

Someone should bring it to his attention that the imperfections have included round after round of genocide and incessant war in Africa.

A policy of pre-emption in the absence of clear, immediate danger is, in fact, a policy that could be pronounced unwise at one point in human history. That point was prior to the advent of weapons of mass destruction and multiple acts of catastrophic terrorism.

The Bush administration was awakened by the Sept. 11 terrorism to new realities that make some previous policies as outdated as would be the manufacturing of carriages instead of cars in Detroit. It is naive to suppose, as Mr. Annan does, that the U.S. example may lead other nations to protect themselves through aggressive action they would not otherwise have employed.